

**Pawtuxet River Authority
And Watershed Council
Historic Harris Mill
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**Monthly Board Meeting
August 18, 2008**

The September 2008 PRA Board meeting will take place on Wednesday September 17th at the Coventry Town Hall - 1670 Flat River Road, Coventry, Rhode Island (401-821-6400).

The meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 PM followed by a presentation at 7:30 PM by representatives from RIDEM on the new proposed RIPDES permits for the WWTFs in Cranston, West Warwick and Warwick.

Board Members Present: Robert Nero, Jack Donovan, Rita Holahan, Fritz Benz, Jim McCaughey, Jack Lancellotta, Michael Maddalena, Ross Adrain

Board Members Absent: Thomas Madden, Will Lemus, Glenn Warfield, Brian Manning, Arthur Langlais, Scott Goodinson

1. Call to Order – 5: PM

Noting that a quorum was present Chairman Nero called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

2. New Business

Discussion took place regarding moving the PRA office to an affordable and reliable facility. It was decided that each Board Member will look around within their respective city/town for available office space. Additional discussion took place regarding building a PRA facility on currently owned property. Rita suggested putting together a Capital Funds Team – Jack Lancellotta agreed that this was an excellent idea. Fritz suggested asking the various local mill owners if they have any additional space. Jack pointed out that our 501.3(c) status could benefit our situation. Fritz suggested putting a trailer on a piece of PRA owned property. Bob stated that the Harris Mill is in receivership and that the receiver should be turning the electricity back on to power the PRA and Landlord's office. Bob made a motion to table discussion to the next meeting – all in favor.

3. Report on Clean-Up Activities

On Saturday July 12th the PRA participated in a clean-up of the Mashpaug Pond in Providence with Bass Association – last clean up of the 2008 season. Bob stated that it was well attended and very successful. This may be an annual event.

4. Howard Property/Canoe Launch

Bob stated that the PRA received a letter from RIDEM regarding solid waste that was dumped at the Howard Property site. The PRA received \$1,900 from railroad tie removal and that \$500 of this money was spent to close off the Kenney Drive entrance in an effort to prevent further dumping. The PRA has formally addressed the RIDEM Notice; however RIDEM has not yet responded.

The PRA will begin building the canoe launch at this site starting next month.

Bob stated that signs are being made for both entrances of this facility.

5. Veterans Square

Work continues at Veterans Square – one more side needs to be finished on the building. The PRA has a \$1,200 grant which can be

used for this project. Bob said we may need at least another \$2,000 worth of work. West Warwick owns this property and the PRA has a “Care and Custody” agreement with City of West Warwick to care for and utilize this property. Ross stated that funds may be available from the State.

6. RIDEM Water Resources

The RIDEM is imposing new restrictions on the three WWTFs located on the Pawtuxet River. RIDEM would like a meeting with the PRA to discuss phosphate reduction in the Pawtuxet.

Rita will be coordinating river sample collections.

Fritz asked if the PRA could talk to the RI Energy Resources office about possible energy recovery at the Harris Dam.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.